

# BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Vol. 6, No. 49

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

October 17, 2002

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**Check out the Marine Corps Web site.**

<http://www.usmc.mil>

## MCLB employee tracks down family of decorated Marine

By Rob L. Jackson  
BARSTOW LOG staff

Humanitarian? Good Samaritan? What word or group of words could best describe the tireless effort of one person to return a memory to its rightful owners?

Ask the sister of the late Gunnery Sgt. Robert Grove what words she would use and she could probably give a long list to describe what one MCLB Barstow employee went through to contact her and return something that is dear to her heart.

The person in question here is Sharon Ott, a civil engineering technician with the Public Works Division.

Recall the article about the decommissioning of Grove Field in last week's edition of the Barstow Log. Initially, Sgt. Maj. Tualago Tautua, base sergeant major, put out an e-mail asking for assistance in locating anyone knowing the whereabouts of the Grove family members, to notify them of the decommissioning.

In the midst of it all, the question came up as to what to do with the sign honoring the Navy Cross and Silver Star winner, and one-time MCLB Barstow Stable non-commissioned officer in charge.

In steps Sharon Ott, an employee at MCLB since 1991, who took it upon herself to track the family down and send the sign to whom she considered the rightful owners. Not sure exactly where to start, Steven Waugh of base licensing directed her to the Internet.

"I went to the Internet, typed in Navy Cross, scrolled down – and there are a lot of names – until I saw Vietnam," said Ott. "It gives you a

box so you can type the name in, so I did that and it pulled his (Grove's) name up right away."

But, according to the information provided by the Web site, Grove was listed as being from Casper, Wyoming. Ott called the Casper Veterans of Foreign Wars seeking assistance, and they told her that they would check around for any of Grove's family members.

Meanwhile, the self-imposed sleuth continued her investigation into the location of the remaining family members. It was at that point that she contacted the commanding officer's secretary, Veronica McClintock, who revealed that Grove's wife's maiden name was Manbeck. But she was from Casper, not Gunnery Sgt. Grove.

This time Ott's new information led her to Pikesville, Tenn., where the Grove family originated. There she found, after going through a nearby Disabled Veterans Organization, Grove's sister Edith Bayless.

"It probably took me about two weeks to find her, because I kept after it. I really wanted to find her," Ott said.

After obtaining the phone number from Edward, whom Ott assumed was a brother, she called Edith Bayless.

"She was really shocked that I found her, that there was a sign, a memorial for her brother," said Ott. "I asked about Grove's daughter, because I read about it in the history. Edith said the first time she heard the daughter was in San Diego, but the last time she heard about the daughter she was in



Photo by Rob Jackson

Sharon Ott, civilian engineering technician, found Marine's family.



Photo by Curt Lambert

Hospitalman Apprentice Micah Davis, the youngest sailor present, and Harry Thompson, the oldest sailor present, prepare to cut the Navy Birthday cake Friday at the Veterans Home of California-Barstow. The Navy personnel stationed at MCLB Barstow took part in the 227th Navy Birthday Ceremony.

Seattle."

So far the daughter still hasn't been located.

Back at MCLB Barstow the sign that marked Grove Field for about 36 years was being refurbished and prepared for shipment to the Grove family in Pikesville. Bayless' initial plan was to put the sign on Drake Cemetery, the family's plot. Those plans changed after Bayless received the sign.

"After she received the sign, which arrived intact and without a scratch, Edith said that on the family's homestead is a field called Grove Field, that they would place the sign there," Ott revealed. "She also told me 'it was like her brother was coming home.'"

Ott has spoken to Edith a few times since then, and she's invited her out to visit when on vacation or traveling through to her hometown of Defiance, Ohio.

This is where the French and In-

dian Wars took place.

When asked why she took it upon herself to locate the family and have the Grove Field sign sent to them, this mother of two successful sons replied "Family."

"I think that if something belongs to a family, it should go to the family," she said. "And I'm just interested in trying to find people. I thought it was fun; it was interesting trying to hunt someone down to return something that belongs to them and that's why I did the first one."

Little does anyone know, the first time the civil engineering tech got involved with a similar act was when the skeet range closed and the sign honoring another Marine was taken down.

She tracked the Marine's family to Seattle, Wash. and had the sign refurbished and returned to the family, where today it adorns the wall of the local VFW.



# Employee benefits information 24/7

## Submitted by Human Resources Office

Hard copy forms to make Health and Life Insurance and Thrift Savings Plan transactions are no longer accepted by the Human Resources Service Center - Southwest. Department of the Navy civilian employees can now access either the Benefits Line or EBIS to access personal benefits information and make necessary elections and changes. Using either your telephone or computer you have access 24 hours a day.

- Use your phone - the benefits line
- Dial 1-888-320-2917
- Enter your Social Security Number
- Enter your Personal Identification Number.

Your PIN will be 4-digits equal to your month and year of birth for first-time callers. For secu-

urity purposes the system will prompt you to change your PIN to a 6-digit number of your choice. Note: Your benefits line PIN will also be used as your EBIS PIN.

- Enter you daytime telephone number
- Press the menu option for the benefit information or transaction you want.
- Use your computer - EBIS
- Go to [www.donbr.navy.mil](http://www.donbr.navy.mil)
- Click on the EBIS icon
- Establish a password. The system will require you to enter data that is specific to your personnel record. You can get this information from your Leave & Earnings Statement (LES). Once you establish your password you will be allowed to enter the EBIS application. You can log into EBIS using your SSN and password.
- To make a benefits transaction or access per-

sonal information you will need to enter your SSN and PIN. If you are a first-time user and have not used The Benefits Line you will need to create a PIN. If you have already used The Benefits Line then your benefits line PIN will be your EBIS PIN. Note: If you create an EBIS PIN it will be used to access The Benefits Line.

- Follow the menu options to select General Information or Personal Information.

For employees who do not have access to computers, computers are available in the HRO Self Service Center, the Base Library and Management Services Office, Maintenance Center. Employees who need to leave their work area must seek permission from their supervisor.

To make benefits transactions:

- Complete your Health and Life Insurance, and Thrift Savings Plan transactions using a tele-

phone or computer. For most benefit transactions, the assistance of a counselor is not needed. However, if you are using The Benefits Line to make a health insurance transaction for family coverage you will be transferred to a Benefits Customer Service Representative (CSR) to have the names of your dependents added to your enrollment.

Confirmation of your transaction is immediate. Confirm by listening over the phone or view the transaction on the web. You may receive a receipt by fax. Faxes may be received at the HRO office at 760-577-6488. HRO will make distribution to the employee. After the effective date of the transaction, ensure proper deductions are withheld by reviewing your LES. This will be

See **BENEFITS** Page 9

## A little common sense wouldn't hurt

By **Cmdr. Bruce A. Martin**  
2nd MAW Deputy Chaplain

I saw an episode of dateline on Dateline that was about Spring Break in Cancun, Mexico, once. It wasn't very edifying or uplifting (in fact, I didn't watch it through to the end), but it was certainly and eye-opener.

The sad feature about it all was that it was about high school students going off to have a break from school and from the weather up north.

The segment began by interviewing three students and their mothers about their expectations and what they thought would go on in Cancun. It was the usual nonsense about such things with the teen-agers saying, "Yes, we know that there is a lot of lunacy and partying that goes on, but we're just going to have a good time, and we know to stay away from the craziness that some will probably fall into." And the mothers were saying, "Cancun is a nice place, and we'll be in the hotel next door, and the kids will call on us if they need any help or get into any trouble. It's just going to be a nice vacation.

Now, Cancun may be a nice place in general, but it's not a nice place when thousands of uninhibited, alcohol-driven students (college and high school) descend on it for spring break. Would you care to predict what happened?

Yes, there was all kinds of crazy drinking going on. There were all kinds of provocative, sexually volatile situations that developed. And, guess what, the teen-agers did all they could to ditch their chaperone parents, and they never called on any of them when things got dicey or out of hand.

Sometimes there needs to be a little common sense involved in our decision making. I have no clue what was going on in the minds of those parents. I guess they thought this was a good way to be "friends" with their teen-agers, or to show how contemporary they were. But it was idiocy. For my money, those teen-agers should have never have been placed in such an explosive situation, no matter how cold it gets in Michigan in the winter time.

Yes, I know that we all need to cut loose and have a good time sometimes, but I also know that drunken stupors, alcohol-induced sexual encounters, and crude, rude and lewd behavior won't help us to become well-adjusted, complete and fulfilled individuals. For this, we need a little common sense. For this, we need to be anchored in the ways of our heavenly father.

Although spoken many, many years ago, the following are still words to live by: *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths"* (Proverbs 3:5-6).

## Just doing my job ...



Photo by Sgt. Joseph Lee

Lance Cpl. Jeremiah Russo brushes off a horses hoof in preparation for a parade, which the Mounted Color Guard was participating in.

### Chapel Services

Protestant Sun. 8:30 a.m.  
Mass Sun. 10:30 a.m.

**Confession services  
before Mass**

### Catholic Rosary

First Saturday of  
every month.  
3 p.m. at the **Base Chapel.**

For more info call  
577-6849.

### Nebo Bible Study

Wednesday Noon-1:30 p.m.  
At the **Chapel Office.**

For more info call  
577-6849.



**BARSTOW LOG**  
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE BARSTOW

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California  
Colonel Ingrid E. Bergman, Commanding Officer



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# NEWS BRIEFS

"News Briefs" is designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Submissions should include a point of contact and phone number, and be received by noon Fridays for the next week's issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to [editor@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@barstow.usmc.mil).

## Marine Corps Ball tickets

Marine Corps Ball tickets are now on sale. Ticket sales are scheduled daily from 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays at Building 15 in the base adjutant's office.

Tickets for officers, civilians and guests are \$21, staff noncommissioned officers are \$16, sergeants and corporals are \$10, and lance corporals and below are free. Each Marine can buy a ticket for a guest at his price, except for lance corporals and below, who have to pay \$10 for their guest. Each guest after the first is \$21.

For room reservations at the special room rate at the Primm Valley Resort, call 1-800-FUN-STOP, and use the code SCM1106. Regular rooms are \$25, jacuzzi rooms are \$119 and suites are \$129. All room reservations should be made before Oct. 25.

## CFC kicks off Monday

The annual Combined Federal Campaign is scheduled to kick off on Oct. 21 and will run through the end of November. This year's CFC coordinator, 1st Lt. Michael Smith, MCLB Finance Office, is looking toward a successful outing.

For this year's campaign as in the past the goal is make 100 percent contact with all MCLB Barstow civilian and military personnel. The following are the key person for the different Cost Work centers to contact to make a donation to any of the many organizations:

Communications Division  
Ruby Adams 577-6751  
Maintenance Center  
Cindy Malloy 577-7146  
Base Safety  
Gunnery Sgt. Craig Stanley 577-6003  
JSA/OGC  
Barbara Kulseth 577-6771  
Commissary  
Robin Leeks-Ellis 577-6403  
4th Platoon

Staff Sgt. James Daly 577-6062  
Fleet Support Division  
1st Lt. Jason Kut 577-7611  
HRO  
Meredith Taylor 577-6478  
MCCS  
Margie Bunt 577-6896  
Building 15  
Bertie Dailey 577-6350

## MCB Auto Show

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual MCB Stress Awareness Auto Show is scheduled to take place at Building 573, on Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This event is open to all MCLB employees, and it doesn't matter what type of vehicle you enter. If you're a hotrodder, or just a person who likes to tinker with cars and are interested in putting your pride on display, call Jack Brumit at 577-7126.

## Big Bear Challenge

The Big Bear Challenge will take place on Oct. 25 at Big Bear Mountain. Sign-up rosters for this annual event are located at the base gym and outside the Headquarters Battalion S-3 office.

Teams are restricted to Marine Corps and Navy Personnel assigned to MCLB Barstow only. For more information contact Capt. Nowell McKnight, Battalion S-3 Officer, at 577-6801.

## Toys For Tots Poker Run

The Toys For Tots Off-Road Poker Run will be held Oct. 26 and 27 behind the Slash X Cafe 12 miles south of Barstow on Highway 247.

The entry fee is \$20 and each rider gets to go twice for each entry.

Any off-road type vehicle can enter, but all California off-road vehicles must have a green or red sticker. All vehicles must have a spark arrester or a muffler.

Helmets are required for all motorcycle and ATV riders.

For more information, call the Slash X Cafe at 252-1197.

## Barstow Chamber hosts flea market

The Barstow Area Chamber of Commerce will host a flea market on "Make A Difference Day" Oct. 26 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Cora Harper Community Center parking lot and the lower Dana Park parking lot. Spaces are available for \$20.00. Each space is approximately the size of two parking spaces. For more information or for vendor applications, call 256-8617.

## CWRA Turkey Drawing

The Civilian Welfare and Recreation Committee will hold it's annual Thanksgiving Drawing for four \$15 gift certificates to Stater Brothers, drawn each Thursday starting Oct. 31.

To participate, fill out a drawing slip and put it in a turkey can. To find turkey cans, or for more information, call Dan Keirn at 577-6614.

## Question to the Corps

ALMAR 051/02 announced the Calendar Year 2002 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter "Question to the Corps": In light of the current world political climate, how can we better prepare our Marines to fight in a rugged, high altitude, mountainous, arid and sparse environment?

Submit your "Question to the Corps" reply and/or your "Marine Mail" through any of the following venues: USMC Web site at [www.usmc.mil/cmc](http://www.usmc.mil/cmc); fax to (703) 614-5035; email to [marinemail@hqmc.usmc.mil](mailto:marinemail@hqmc.usmc.mil); or mail to Marine Mail (CMC), HQMC, 2 Navy Annex, Washington D.C. 20380-1775. Stick to the submission criteria and you will receive a reply within 30 days of receipt.

## 4th Annual Fun Run

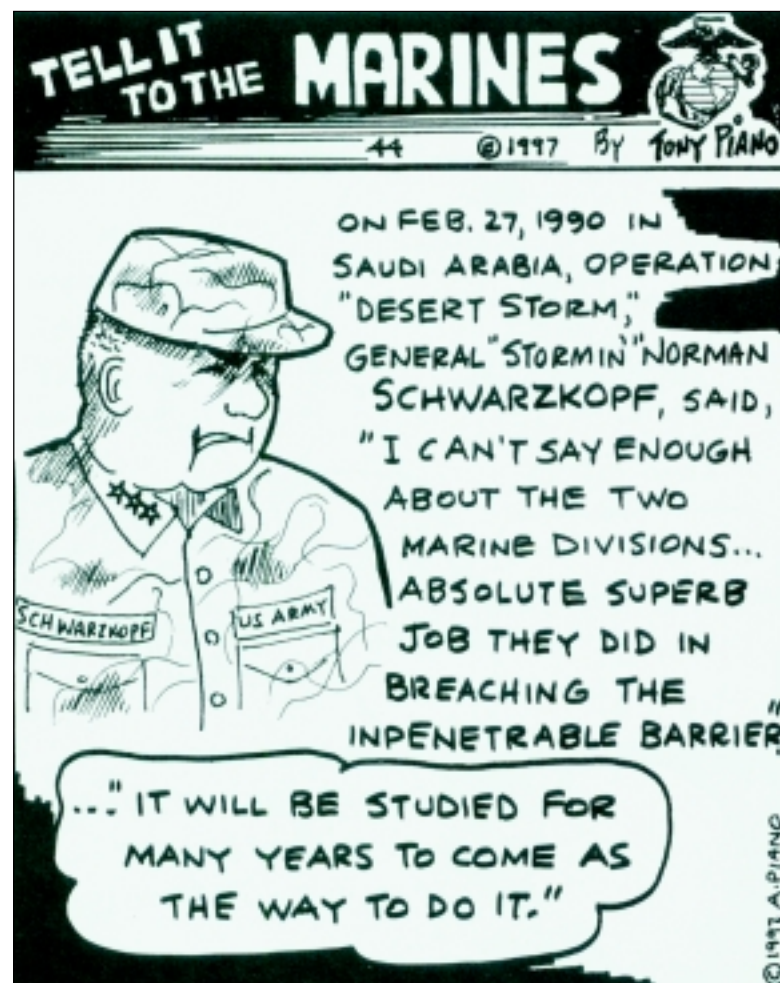
The Barstow Boys and Girls Club 4th Annual Tortoise and Hare Fun Run/Walk will be held Nov. 2. This Fun Run/Walk benefits the Barstow Boys and Girls Club and offers 5K, 10K and 15K routes through Barstow. Every participant will receive a finish medal, goody bag and T-shirt.

Early bird entry fee is \$20. Call the Boys and Girls Club at 255-2422 for an entry form or more information.

## Environmental mailbox

The Environmental Department has established a new mailbox for reporting environmental observations and concerns. The new e-mail address is [smbbarstowenvironmentalreporting@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:smbbarstowenvironmentalreporting@barstow.usmc.mil).

Employees who observe anything aboard base which they feel might



have an adverse effect on the environment (i.e., illegal dumping of trash behind warehouses or other remote areas of the base, unlabeled or leaking drums, residue on the ground that could indicate a spill, or anything else that causes an employee concern) should send an e-mail to the mailbox. If there is a concern that needs immediate attention contact the Environmental Department, 577- 6173.

## Maintenance Complaint line

To report complaints about repair and maintenance work on real property, i.e., base buildings, excluding housing, call 577-5159.

## Yermo vehicle registration

People may register their vehicles on the first and third Tuesdays each month from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the security trailer next to the Cactus Cafe at the Yermo Annex.

Vehicle registration, proof of insurance, a valid driver's license and a current ID card are required. Call 577-6969/6371 for more information.

## Water quality line

Base personnel with water quality concerns or complaints should contact Pete Barela, water and sewage supervisor for the Installations Division, 577-7880.

## VITA volunteers wanted

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is looking for a few dedicated volunteers to assist active-

duty military, retired military and their respective dependents with the preparation of their 2002 income tax returns.

The VITA program allows armed forces personnel to avoid the sometimes-hefty processing fees, usually \$70 to \$90, that civilian agencies charge.

This program is sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service in cooperation with Headquarters Marine Corps through the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

All VITA volunteers must attend a two-week training program offered by the Internal Revenue Service and California Franchise Tax Board during January 2003.

Volunteers will become knowledgeable in federal and California tax law.

In addition, volunteers will be trained to use tax wise computer software so that all tax returns they prepare may be electronically filed.

Each volunteer will be required to commit at least eight hours per week from Feb. 1 to April 15 at the Tax Center to provide tax assistance.

More intensive tax training could be offered through OSJA to a 10-week H&R Block Tax Training Course beginning Sept. 9 upon approval of management and individual supervisors.

To find out how to participate in the VITA program or for further information, please contact Jacque Fadeley, 577-6874, or Barbara Kulseth, 577-6771.

## Spouse Information Night to be held Wed

A Spouse Information Night is scheduled to be held Wednesday at the Oasis Club from 5 to 7 p.m.

The event is open to all spouses of base employees, and children are welcome.

Food and refreshments will be provided, as well as a chance to meet other spouses and learn more about the base, military benefits and opportunities.

The Spouse Information Night will be conducted in a convention style, roundtable-type presentation that will allow everyone to browse through each area of interest at his or her own leisure.

Representatives from the follow-

ing organizations will be on hand to provide information on the multitude of services and opportunities available to family members in and around the MCLB Barstow community: TRICARE, Crime Prevention and Child Identification, Commissary, Marine Corps Community Services, Military Personnel and Finance, Key Volunteer Network, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, and the American Red Cross.

For more information about the Spouse Information Night or Key Volunteer Network, contact the base family readiness officer at 577-6556.

# Carbon Monoxide - the silent killer

Submitted by  
Base Safety

With the onset of the cooler weather quickly approaching, many of you are probably starting to think about firing up various types of heating appliances, such as furnaces, room heaters, wood stoves etc. in your homes. Even in some of your work areas, there is a potential for carbon monoxide build-up from the various types of heaters found on base. The following article from the Consumer Product Safety Commission answers critical questions relating to the hazards of this silent killer.

**What is carbon monoxide (CO) and how is it produced in the home?**

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. The incomplete burning of solid, liquid, and gaseous fuels produces it. Appliances fueled with natural gas, liquefied petroleum (LP gas), oil, kerosene, coal, or wood may produce CO. Burning charcoal produces CO. Running cars produce CO.

**How many people does CO unintentionally poison?**

Every year, over 200 people in the United States die from CO produced by fuel-burning appliances (furnaces, ranges, water heaters, room heaters). Others die from CO produced while burning charcoal inside a home, garage, vehicle or tent. Still others die from CO produced by cars left running in at-

tached garages. Several thousand people go to hospital emergency rooms for treatment for CO poisoning.

**What are the symptoms of CO poisoning?**

The initial symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever). They include:

- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Dizziness

Many people with CO poisoning mistake their symptoms for the flu or are misdiagnosed by physicians, which sometimes results in tragic deaths.

**What should you do to prevent CO poisoning?**

Make sure appliances are installed according to manufacturer's instructions and local building codes. Professionals should install most appliances. Have the heating system (including chimneys and vents) inspected and serviced annually. The inspector should also check chimneys and flues for blockages, corrosion, partial and complete disconnections, and loose connections.

Install a CO detector/alarm that meets the requirements of the current UL standard 2034 or the requirements of the IAS 6-96 standard. A carbon monoxide detector/alarm can provide added protection, but is no substitute for proper use and upkeep of appli-

ances that can produce CO. Install a CO detector/alarm in the hallway near every separate sleeping area of the home. Make sure furniture or draperies cannot cover up the detector.

Never burn charcoal inside a home, garage, vehicle, or tent.

Never use portable fuel-burning camping equipment inside a home, garage, vehicle, or tent.

Never leave a car running in an attached garage, even with the garage door open.

Never service fuel-burning appliances without proper knowledge, skills, and tools. Always refer to the owner's manual when performing minor adjustments or servicing fuel-burning appliances.

Never use gas appliances such as ranges, ovens, or clothes dryers for heating your home.

Never operate unvented fuel-burning appliances in any room with closed doors or windows or in any room where people are sleeping.

Do not use gasoline-powered tools and engines indoors. If use is unavoidable, ensure that adequate ventilation is available and whenever possible place engine unit to exhaust outdoors.

**What CO level is dangerous to your health?**

The health effects of CO depend on the level of CO and length of exposure, as well as each individual's health

condition. The concentration of CO is measured in parts per million (ppm). Health effects from exposure to CO levels of approximately 1 to 70 ppm are uncertain, but most people will not experience any symptoms. Some heart patients might experience an increase in chest pain. As CO levels increase and remain above 70 ppm; symptoms may become more noticeable (headache, fatigue, nausea). As CO levels increase above 150 to 200 ppm, disorientation, unconsciousness, and death are possible.

**What should you do if you are experiencing symptoms of CO poisoning?**

If you think you are experiencing any of the symptoms of CO poisoning, get fresh air immediately. Open windows and doors for more ventilation, turn off any combustion appliances, and leave the house. Call your fire department and report your symptoms. You could lose consciousness and die if you do nothing. It is also important to contact a doctor immediately for a proper diagnosis. Tell your doctor that you suspect CO poisoning is causing your problems. Prompt medical attention is important if you are experiencing any symptoms of CO poisoning when you are operating fuel-burning appliances. Before turning your fuel-burning appliances back on, make sure a qualified serviceperson checks them for malfunction.

**What has changed in CO detectors/alarms recently?**

CO detectors/alarms always have been and still are designed to alarm before potentially life-threatening levels of CO are reached. The UL standard 2034 (1998 revision) has stricter requirements that the detector/alarm must meet before it can sound. As a result, the possibility of nuisance alarms is decreased.

**What should you do when the CO detector/alarm sounds?**

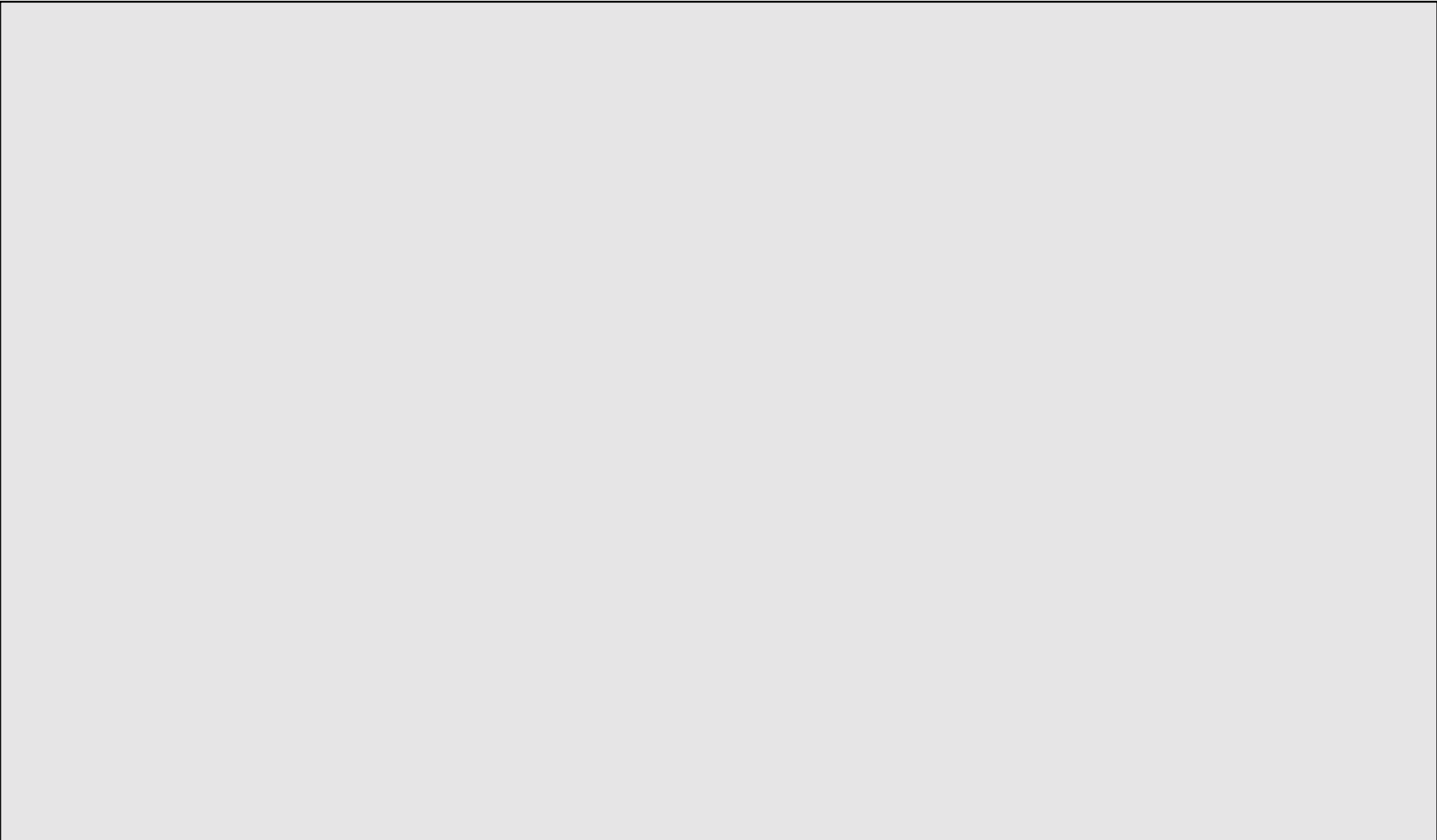
Never ignore an alarming CO detector/alarm. If the detector/alarm sounds: Operate the reset button. Call your emergency services (fire department or 911). Immediately move to fresh air — outdoors or by an open door/window.

**How should a consumer test a CO detector/alarm to make sure it is working?**

Consumers should follow the manufacturer's instructions. Using a test button, some detectors/alarms test whether the circuitry as well as the sensor, which senses CO, is working, while the test button on other detectors only tests whether the circuitry is working. For those units that test the circuitry only, some manufacturers sell separate test kits to help the consumer test the CO sensor inside the alarm.

**What is the role of the U.S. Con-**

**See KILLER Page 9**





# AROUND THE CORPS

## *A living lesson in Hispanic history for Marines*

By Staff Sgt. Sam Kille  
MARFOR Unitas

ABOARD THE USS PORTLAND (LSD-37) — Since Sept. 15, military installations across the United States have hosted several events and ceremonies to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month, which concluded Oct. 15.

However, for the members of Marine Forces Unitas, everyday has been a lesson in Hispanic history, culture and tradition, since they departed Little Creek, Va., Aug. 5, to take part in Unitas 43-02. Unitas-Latin for unity is an annual, multi-national series of training exercises with Latin American maritime forces, aimed at promoting democracy and friendship in the Western Hemisphere.

"This deployment has been a real eye-opener," said Lance Cpl. Rory Thornton, a machine gunner from Nahant, Mass. "I thought it might be a little strange being an American here, but the people are very genuine-absolutely friendly."

The deployment, which they are now halfway through, has carried the Marines throughout Latin America—from white, sandy beaches in the Car-

ibbean, to steamy jungles in the Amazonian Basin; from barren deserts along the Pacific Coast, to snow-capped mountains in the Andes.

"I've seen some of the most beautiful places in the world here," said Thornton. "This has been a great experience."

But the trip has been a lot more than interesting scenery. In the Dominican Republic, the Marines stood on the site where Christopher Columbus first set foot in the New World. In Colombia, many Marines and Sailors helped renovate a school in a remote, jungle village. In Ecuador, Marines bought Incan influenced souvenirs. In Peru, the Marines broke bread with locals, and were entertained by traditional dancers. In Chile, Marines took advantage of a number of tours.

"Every country has been a different experience in itself," said Sgt. Jason Elkins, a radio operator from LaMarque, Texas. "Not everyone, or every place, is the same. Even the forms of Spanish are different, with words having different meanings."

One of the "different experiences," said Thornton, "was seeing a chicken running around, then eating it an hour later. You just don't see that at home!"

Yet, according to Elkins, there is one thing that is common throughout Latin America—a strong sense of pride and a deep commitment to tradition. Much of that commitment stems from deep religious roots.

"You can see the influence of Roman Catholicism everywhere," said Elkins. "It seems that most villages and towns are built centered around the church."

That influence seems to reach the ranks of the military forces here as well.

"I was on the Valdivia (a Chilean naval ship) and saw a huge display of crossed swords, a typical military display one would expect," Elkins said. "Right next to it, there was a huge shrine to the Virgin Mary. I thought that said a lot about their beliefs. Here I was, on what used to be an American ship (USS San Bernardino) and I'm looking at something like that."

Thornton echoed Elkins' thoughts. "Many of the people here don't have much, but they are proud of what they have," Thornton said. "They are very family and religion oriented. You can see that in everything they do. When we've done cross training with foreign Marines, you could tell they had a real

See HISPANIC Page 9



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sam Kille

Marines deployed aboard the USS Portland (LSD-37), in support of Unitas 43-02, are entertained by dancers during a reception in Huacho, Peru, Sept. 21.

# COMMANDER'S CORNER

Maintenance Center Barstow

## Maintenance Center Barstow Safety Policy

By Col Robert E. Gerlaugh  
Commander

We who come to work here every day are the heart, soul and core capability of this Maintenance Center. We can renovate facilities, replace equipment and tools but we cannot replace the talent, experience and commitment of the people who work here on our team.



Crippling injuries, deaths, and even the minor injuries that cause us to lose precious time from our work here, hurt our families, our teammates, our mission and, ultimately, the Marines we serve.

Most of the work we do here is inherently dangerous. We are professionals, however, who know how to work safely in this environ-

ment. We know from experience that very few accidents result from uncontrollable events or simple coincidence. We know that most accidents are caused by the same things that lead to costly mistakes on the battlefield: poor planning, inadequate training, poor communication, lack of supervision at critical points - and just plain lack of attention to what we are doing.

A team's safety record is much more than a "report card" on its Safety Program; it is a reflection of the team's professional competence and the leadership at every level. I want each of you to know that I take this seriously. I will do my utmost to set the example. And I will insist that every person on this team do likewise. To that

end, I ask the following:

a. **That every member of Team Barstow act as a Safety Officer.** Regardless of rank, grade or position, every member of our team has the authority -- and the responsibility - to halt any activity in this Center which in their immediate judgment appears to be unsafe. The supervisor (or acting supervisor) of that shop or line will respond immediately and in person, make a determination if an unsafe situation exists, correct it appropriately if required, and be accountable for the safe completion of that task.

b. **The "uniform of the day" in Maintenance Center Barstow is safety boots, hearing protection and eye protection for our artisans, their shop supervisors, and anyone whose work takes them routinely into the craneway, the back shops, the lots, test track or warehouses.** For those of our team who infrequently visit these areas or simply pass through the craneway to their offices, I ask that you - at a minimum - have and wear hearing protection. I have directed that our Safety office produce schematics of our Center with appropriate color designations of areas in which safety boots, hearing and eye protection are either required or "as required" by the task being performed. These will be posted clearly in each shop and entrance to the craneway. Our guests to this Maintenance Center will wear hearing protection in our shops or will not visit them.

c. **That the Position Descriptions of Supervisors at every level be amended immediately to include responsibility for cleanliness, safety and organization of their Cost Work Centers.** This is "Our House." A safety process, facility or equipment 'fix' isn't resolved until it stops with me. We have a supervisory chain of responsibility that absolutely MUST either solve the problem at their level or continue to push the problem up until it is solved or gets to me. This must be done quickly and feedback provided to every level of the team.

d. **That the Cost Work Center's weekly safety meetings focus**

on their work spaces and their work instructions. Fix anything you can. Coordinate the "fix" with any other CWC if you need their help. But I ask that you review, write up when necessary and report out to your Business Center Managers at least each month anything your Safety Meetings identify as an unsafe shop condition or a work instruction that needs a "safe procedure" modification if you can't fix the problem within the CWC. Please send an info copy of your report to our Center Safety Manager and me. The Safety Manager for Maintenance Center Barstow shall focus on researching and providing safety expertise and advice to me, the Business Center Managers and the shop supervisors at every level. When a Cost Work Center identifies an unsafe condition, process, a training requirement or an equipment need, it will be reported and we will do whatever is necessary to research it, solve it and provide direct feedback to the shop as we go.

e. **That a summary of accidents resulting in lost time for each Direct Labor Cost Work Center be compiled each month by the Center Safety Manager.** The running totals will be briefed by each Business Center Manager, each month, to me. I intend to reinstate a meaningful Safety Award in this command. Cost Work Centers in which the members pay attention to safe procedures in their work, the cleanliness and safe conditions in their shops, and back-stop each other to ensure safe practices as a matter of routine will have far fewer serious accidents. They will be recognized for their efforts insofar as this Maintenance Center has the resources to do it each fiscal year.

5. Lastly, I ask each of us to make it a habit to look around as we work, make sure things are safe, follow correct procedures and cover each other.

If you see something that looks unsafe, chances are it is and needs to be stopped and corrected on the spot. It took a lifetime to build the talent and expertise each you has now; it can take only a fraction of a second to ruin it all.

## Close calls are wake up calls

By Randy Spencer  
Environmental and Safety

Close calls or near misses are very common in the workplace.

They are incidents that don't cause an injury or some other kind of property damage only because there was nothing in the way to be damaged, or no one close enough to be injured.

Maintenance Center Barstow has recently experienced two injuries concerning vehicles versus pedestrians and have seen an increase in close call incidences due to excessive speed, inattention to surroundings, or unsafe operations.

Why talk about accidents that didn't happen?

Because close call incidents trigger the fact

that something is seriously wrong.

They allow us the opportunity to investigate and correct the situation before the same thing happens again and causes an injury or death.

Close call incident reporting is a very valuable tool in helping us all manage an effective safety program.

But the vital part is to apply corrective action immediately.

The only way this can be done is if a close call or unsafe act is reported immediately after it has occurred.

This way we can learn as much as possible - as soon as possible.

A wise man once said: "A fool is not a man who makes no mistakes - we all do that. The fool is the man who refuses to learn from them."

**REMINDER: The speed around Maintenance Center Barstow is 10 mph and inside any building the speed is 5 mph - OR SLOWER AS CONDITIONS WARRANT**

## New Safety Chief on Board

By Randy Spencer  
Environmental and Safety

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome aboard our new Safety Chief, Mr. Rickey Payne. Rickey arrived here to assume his duties on Aug. 26 after an 18-year stay on Okinawa both on active duty and as a Safety Specialist at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Butler. Rickey Payne was born in Houston, Texas on July 31, 1945. He joined the Navy in August 1962 and during a 1970 tour of duty in Osaka, Japan he met and married his wife Michiko. Tours of duty in the Navy include 10 years in overseas locations and 10 years shipboard duty aboard aircraft carriers including a deployment to Vietnam.

After over 27 years of service he retired from the Navy in Jan. 1990 as a Senior Chief. In 1990 he entered service with the Department of Defense at the GS-4 level and served with the Naval Hospital, Okinawa and the Marine Corps Safety Office, Camp Butler. At the Camp Butler Safety Office he served as a Physical Sciences Technician for 4 years and as a Safety Specialist for 8 years.

Rickey has asked me to pass along some personal thoughts from him to you. First and fore-



Photo by Joe Marano

most he wants to assure you that his door will always be open to you, at all times and for whatever reason or concerns you have, or to just chat about safety.

In his own words he is "here to help keep you safe and injury free." You will see him out walking about the facilities to see what's happening, talk with you and observe your processes and operations.

When you see him out there ask questions, and make suggestions.

"I'd like to be your friend also but at the same time your safety is paramount and, if I see you need some constructive guidance, I will not hesitate to tell you like it is."



# MCLB participates in recent community events



Photo by Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt

Lance Cpl. Peter Vegliante, supply clerk for Fleet Support Division, shows a child the controls to a High Mobility Multi-Wheel Vehicle Saturday during the Annual Fall Festival at Mount Saint Joseph's Church.



Photo by Rob Jackson

Two-year-old Maygan Chritzer, checks out a poster on Boy Scout Troop #168 during activities at Youth Activities Center, for Fire Prevention Week 2002. Maygan is one of a set of triplet girls enjoying the fun offered by the MCLB Fire and Emergency Service Department.

During Search and Rescue City, a community event, the base stables were used to give riding lessons to local search and rescue members.



Photo by Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt



Photo by Rob Jackson

Fire Safety Inspector Terry Jenkins questions 9-year-old Je'Nai Thomas during a Home Fire Hazard Hunt. There were 14 fire hazards the children had to find during this contest. The winner was Kaela Morocco, who found 11 hazards. The winner for the Home Evacuation Plan was Michael Clarke. These events were the final activities put on by the MCLB Fire and Emergency Services Division for Fire Prevention Week.



By Jim Gaines  
MCCS Publicity

**It's Spooktacular!**

The Spooktacular Sale in progress at the Super Seven Day Store and the Railhead Exchange features 10 percent off all regularly priced electronics, 20 percent off all long sleeve clothing, 30 percent off red tag electronics and clothes, 40 percent off Goldstar microwaves, 50 percent off all Tiki torches. This sale ends Oct. 31.

And there's more - the October sale runs all month long with 15 percent off all mens and womens shorts and short sleeve T-shirts. Asics running shoes at 20 percent off. George Foreman grills and other gas grills at 10 percent off the regular price.

Don't miss out on these great bargains - shop your MCX.

The Super Seven Store is open Mondays through Fridays 6:30 a.m.

to 9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 256-8974 for more information. Call the Railhead Exchange at 577-7092 for information and for hours of operation.

**Lunch menu**

Unless otherwise indicated the lunch menu for the Family Restaurant and the Cactus Cafe are the same.

*Today* – Picadillo served on a bed of steamed Jasmine rice.

*Friday* – Breaded Hoki fish with rice pilaff.

*Monday* – Veal parmesan in marinara sauce.

*Tuesday* – Chicken stir fry with fried rice.

*Wednesday* – Sauteed sausage served with saurkraut, potato salad and pumpernickel bread.

*Thursday* – Family Restaurant: Soup and salad bar. Cactus Cafe: Meat loaf, mashed potatoes and

gravy.  
Call in your Cactus Cafe lunch order to the Family Restaurant at 577-6428 or 577-6429 no later than 9:30 a.m.

Prices: \$3 military, \$4.50 civilian. Includes roll/butter, vegetable and drink of choice.

**Family Night Dining**

*Wednesday* – Barbecued beef sandwiches, hot dogs, baked beans, cole slaw, tossed green salad and dessert.

Family Night Dinners are served Wednesdays from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Prices \$5.50 adults, \$3.50 children 5 to 11 years. Children under 5 years are free. Prices are the same for military and civilian personnel.

**Ceramic Show**

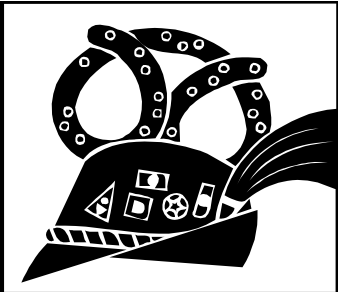
The Ceramic Hobby Shop will have a trip to a unique Ceramic Show on Saturday.

Call Marke at 577-6228 for all the details of cost, time and place of departure and estimated return time.

**Learn to play golf**

Did you know that Tees n' Trees golf course offers golf lessons? You can learn this great sport and be out on the greens faster than you think. Call 577-6431 for more information on how to learn to play golf.

**OCTOBERFEST**

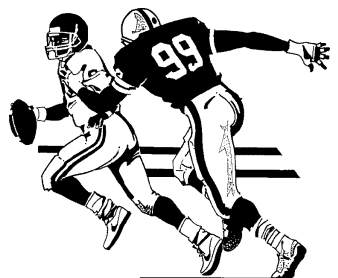


ITT has a trip scheduled on Oct. 26 to the Octoberfest Festival at the world famous Alpine Village.

The cost is \$15 per person, sign up and payment due by Oct. 26.

For more information call Betty at 577-6541. ITT is open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets available after business hours at the Bowling Center Wednesdays through Fridays 4 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**FOOTBALL  
at the Enlisted  
Club two days a  
week!**



**TAILGATE PARTY  
SUNDAYS**

At the Enlisted Club, enjoy the All Ranks NFL DIRECTV Sunday Ticket, with tailgate BBQ food snacks provided.

Doors open at 9:30 a.m. First game starts at 10 a.m., second game starts at 1 p.m.

**MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL**

Mondays at the Enlisted Club, watch the game at All Ranks Monday Nite Football.

Snacks provided. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.



# 29 Palms slam Bulldogs

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt  
BARSTOW LOG staff

The MCLB Bulldogs were pasted by the Twentynine Palms base basketball team 85-26 Oct. 10 at the Base Gym here.

For the second time in two years, MCLB Barstow hosted a varsity-level basketball game. They lost to Miramar's base basketball team last year.

The Bulldogs were looking to tune their skills for the Marine Corps West Regional Basketball Tournament taking place this week, but were blind-sided by a far superior team.

"They play together year-round," said John Hubbard, forward. "We've been playing together for two weeks."

Besides having limitations on the amount of time the Bulldogs have played together, the base is obviously handicapped by a much smaller talent pool.

"This is like a little country high school playing against a school from downtown Los Angeles," said Chris Barrera, guard, who was tied for the team lead with six points.

Even though the Bulldogs were on the dubious end of a lopsided loss, some of their players took it in stride.

"It stinks to lose so bad, but it is still fun to play," said Barrera.



Photo by Sgt. Joseph Lee

Sgt. Stanley D. Rawles, postal chief, breaks through the 29 Palms defense for a lay-up during the closing minutes of Saturday's game.

## HISPANIC from Page 5

thirst for knowledge - they are very professional. It's been a pleasure to work with them."

In addition to those the Marines are meeting on their voyage, a fairly large number of MarFor Unitas' Leathernecks are of Hispanic descent.

The unit's commanding officer, Lt. Col. Anthony Hattey, from San Jose, Calif., is of Mexican-American heritage. The ground combat element's commanding officer, Maj. Rod Long, is of Panamanian descent. Roughly 25 percent of Unitas 43-02's Marines are Hispanic - an average higher than the national percentage of Hispanics serving

in uniform, which is 19 percent. In 1st Platoon alone, a whopping 82 percent are Mexican Americans.

According to Hattey, though the diversity of MarFor Unitas' Marines is a good thing for the unit and the Marine Corps in general, first and foremost they are all Marines.

"Having so many Hispanic Marines

by no means makes us more capable as a unit - good Marines are good Marines, regardless of background," said Hattey. "Yet a float like this is definitely beneficial for our Hispanic Marines. It exposes them to the many Hispanic cultures other than their own; it's a great opportunity for all."

And though Hispanic Heritage

Month is over, Marine Forces Unitas still has two months before it ends its deployment at Camp Lejeune, N.C. During the weeks ahead, they will train along the Atlantic Coast, making visits to Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. While there, they are sure to continue a lesson in Hispanic heritage that few ever receive - they are living it.

## GUNNY'S PICKS

Week 7



Congratulations to Janet Wilson, QA Specialist with Public Works, this week's winner of the Gunny's Picks. Wilson, a die-hard football and Angels fan, went 9-5 this week to include the Monday Night game between the 49ers and Seahawks. It came down to the Monday night game, a first this season, to determine the winner this week and Wilson pulled it out. It wasn't a good weekend for the "Swami" this week,

or for many other folks for that matter. So look for another wild weekend in which the winning team will be determined by a field goal, or a total blowout. This is another week where you can look for any of the top teams to go down, but the "Swami" says go with Arizona taking out Dallas. Here's a look at the rest next week's match ups.

To submit your choices for Gunny's Picks, fill out this section of the newspaper and drop it off at the Public Affairs Office in the Red Wing of Building 15, or e-mail who you think will win each game to [editor@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@barstow.usmc.mil).

Buffalo at Miami\*  
Carolina at Atlanta\*  
\*Chicago at Detroit  
Denver at Kansas City\*  
Jacksonville at Baltimore\*  
\*Minnesota at NY Jets  
\*Seattle at St. Louis

\*San Francisco at New Orleans  
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia\*  
\*Houston at Cleveland  
San Diego at Oakland\*  
Dallas at Arizona\*  
Washington at Green Bay\*

### Monday Night

\*Indianapolis at Pittsburgh

Total points: \_\_\_\_\_

Name, work section and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Monday night's game is a tie-breaker and must include a total score.

## Wednesday at the Oasis Club

All military spouses who would like to learn about the benefits and opportunities the MCLB military community offers visit the Oasis Club from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday.

**For more information call  
677-6556.**

## BENEFITS from Page 2

your confirmation that your transaction has been completed.

With either The Benefits Line or EBIS you can access your personal benefits information and make transactions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you need to speak with a Benefits CSR they are available Mon-

day through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by calling 1-888-320-2917. A Benefits CSR will answer your questions and help you solve any benefits related issues.

Training will be made available to all employees on the use of The Benefits System and EBIS. If you need to make a benefit transaction before you receive training, you may contact the Human Resources Office for assistance at 577-6914, 577-6918, 577-6357, 577-6279 or 577-6483.

## KILLER from Page 4

sumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) in preventing CO poisoning?

CPSC worked closely with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) to help develop the safety standard (UL 2034) for CO detectors/alarms. CPSC helps promote carbon monoxide safety awareness to raise awareness of CO hazards and the need for regular maintenance of fuel-burning appliances. CPSC recommends that every home have a CO detector/alarm that meets the requirements

of the most recent UL standard 2034 or the IAS 6-96 standard in the hallway near every separate sleeping area. CPSC also works with industry to develop voluntary and mandatory standards for fuel-burning appliances.

**Do some cities require that CO detectors/alarms be installed?**

On September 15, 1993, Chicago, Illinois became one of the first cities in the nation to adopt an ordinance requiring, effective October 1, 1994, the installation of CO detectors/alarms in all new single-family homes and in existing single-

family residences that have new oil or gas furnaces. Several other cities also require CO detectors/alarms in apartment buildings and single-family dwellings.

**Should CO detectors/alarms be used in motor homes and other recreational vehicles?**

CO detectors/alarms are available for boats and recreational vehicles and should be used. The Recreation Vehicle Industry Association requires CO detectors/alarms in motor homes and in towable recreational vehicles that have a generator or are prepped for a generator.

1977 PONTIAC LT: One of 2400 built. Xlt. cond., 36,000 original miles asking \$6,000. OBO, consider trade. Call 242-8539 ask for Bob.

1997 YAMAHA 350 Banshee: New rear tires, FMF pipes and silencers, pro flow intake, K &N air filter, good shape, \$4,500, OBO. Call 252-5365 Ron AWH.

MISCELLANEOUS: Why pay \$30,000 for a new SUV when you can have a really nice 4x4 for your family for only \$6,800, loaded with lots of extras, low mileage, lots of fun for family off-roading or traveling the highway. Call 252-2908 for more details lv. msg.

MISCELLANEOUS: Boys bike, dark blue, front shocks, nice, \$40. Call 256-2434.

MISCELLANEOUS: 1969 Aristocrate 15-foot travel trailer, needs minor work, tags current, \$900, OBO, or trade for vehicle. Call 252-2815.

MISCELLANEOUS: Fender guitar “telly” USA made in 80s, sun burst, \$700, OBO. Call 843-8335.

MISCELLANEOUS: Story and Clark console piano with bench, needs tuning, \$400. Call 242-4553.

MISCELLANEOUS: Ez-up dome tent 8x12 nearly new \$100; Porta Potty 235 series 2.6 gas waste/fresh-water xlt.. for camping, fishing or boats, \$50; LT215 85-R16 \$20, p185-70-r14, \$15, P175-70-r13, \$10 xlt. cond. Call 256-6629.

## AD PLACEMENT

Non-business BARSTOW LOG Classified Ads are free for base employees and active or retired service members and their family members.Non-business ads may be submitted to:

***editor@barstow.usmc.mil***

To place business-related adds call:

***Aerotech News and Review***

**(661) 945-5634**





